

Message Text

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PAGE 01 LONDON 14262 011719Z

15

ACTION EUR-08

INFO OCT-01 SS-14 ISO-00 EA-06 SP-02 INR-05 RSC-01 IO-03

L-01 /041 W

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R 011713Z NOV 74

FM AMEMBASSY LONDON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5300

INFO AMEMBASSY PHNOM PENH

AMEMBASSY SAIGON

C O N F I D E N T I A L LONDON 14262

LIMDIS

E.O. 11652: XGDS-1

TAGS: PDIP, PFOR, CB, UK

SUBJECT: UK DIPLOMATIC REPRESENTATION IN PHNOM PENH

1. MICHAEL WILFORD, FCO DEPUTY UNDERSECRETARY OF STATE, TOLD US OCT 31 THAT UK WILL NOT BE SENDING RESIDENT AMBASSADOR TO PHNOM PENH TO REPLACE AMBASSADOR POWELL-JONES WHEN LATTER'S REGULAR TOUR IS UP. UK AMBASSADOR TO VIETNAM WILL BE ACCREDITED TO KHMER REPUBLIC. THERE WILL CONTINUE TO BE A RESIDENT UK STAFF IN PHNOM PENH.

2. WILFORD SAID HE IS ASKING UK EMBASSY WASHINGTON TO INFORM DEPARTMENT OF THIS UK DECISION. HE SUGGESTED THAT APPROACH TO DEPARTMENT WOULD MAKE IT UNNECESSARY FOR US TO REPORT OUR CONVERSATIONS (SO PLEASE PROTECT THIS REPORT). BUT HE MADE TWO COMMENTS TO US WHICH WE BELIEVE ARE WORTH REPORTING:

A) HE EMPHASIZED THAT HE HOPED THIS DECISION WOULD EASE THE CONCERNS DESCRIBED BY ASSISTANT SECRETARY HABIB DURING RECENT US/UK CONSULTATIONS ON EAST ASIA. WILFORD AGREED THAT PREVIOUS UK POSITION ON THIS QUESTION WAS "NOT RIGHT" AND FELT THAT THE PRESENT PROPOSAL FULFILLS HIS PROMISE TO HABIB TO RECONSIDER AND FIND MORE ACCEPT-
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PAGE 02 LONDON 14262 011719Z

ABLE SOLUTION TO PROBLEM OF CONTINUED PRESENCE UK DIPLO-

MATS IN PHNOM PENH.

B) HE ALSO EMPHASIZED THAT UK WILL NOT ANNOUNCE DECISION NOT TO REPLACE POWEL-JONES, NOR EVEN INFORM GKR, UNTIL AFTER UNGA PROBLEM IS RESOLVED.

SOHM

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Message Attributes

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Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
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